

America's FUTURE

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WHAT WE FACE IN THE UN

Every once in a while someone asks: What is the United Nations doing, if anything? That is a good question. After all, we were inveigled into the United Nations on the promise that it would keep world peace - and with the warning that if we did not join we would scuttle world harmony. We joined - but nobody can claim there is anything harmonious about the poor old world. Also, it looks as if most of the ostensible peace moves take place outside, not inside, that big

glass house in New York which contains a collection of communists, socialists, fascists and heaven knows what else.

Nevertheless, it would be a great mistake to ignore the UN's possibilities for mischief. Like all bureaucracies it grows and grows. And something has been happening to its membership which could be very serious for America.

When the United Nations was formed, it contained 51 nations. Of course its Security Council is hopeless - stymied at every turn by the Soviet

veto power. But in the General Assembly, the most influential nations used to be the North American countries (including the United States) and the nations of Western Europe. Their political and economic differences are great. But at least they do have a common tradition of respect for the rights of the individual (even though it is honored often more in the breach than in practice). When these Western nations consider a problem, they are likely to do so within the framework of a moral and ethical background which Americans can understand.

But now there are 82 members in the United Nations instead of 51. And the majority of these new members is made up of what is known as the

Asian-African bloc. Of course Americans are sympathetic to these small countries which only recently achieved independence from colonial rule. But these new nations have no knowledge or tradition of the democratic way of life. Many of them lean heavily toward Soviet Russia. And they now hold the balance of power in the UN. So what do we face if we remain in the United Nations? In some of these new nations, cannibalism is still practiced. In others, the chief solution to anything the people don't like is to kill their leaders. Yet we are at the mercy of not-yet-civilized countries like these in deciding great questions in the United Nations which could affect the lives of every American.

BEHIND THE CONFERENCES

Here are several other questions which are being asked frequently these days. What is all this talk about disarmament - and about banning nuclear tests? Is there any chance of agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union on these things? Or is it all just talk? These questions badly need to be answered, but po-

litical leaders, including those in Soviet Russia, are busy with their usual practice of doubletalk. It leaves the normal American worried and confused. He wants to see peace in the world. And the idea of not spending so much of his taxes on the tools of war is enticing. But he knows his adversary does not operate on the same level of

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standards and ethics which we do. An American can't help asking himself: Can we trust the Reds? And what is really behind their seemingly 'peaceful' intentions?

First, we must remember that all these meetings, conferences, summits between Red leaders and our own leaders, serve three purposes so far as Khrushchev is concerned. His first purpose is to provide himself with a world propaganda forum. He pictures himself before the world as the man who wants to do away with armaments, who wants to ban the use of terrible nuclear weapons - while the wicked Western leaders pretend to talk about peace, but insist on keeping their weap-

ons. Second, Khrushchev sees a golden chance to weaken the defenses of the West. He himself knows the West really wants peace, even though he tells his people otherwise. If he can make the West believe that he wants peace too, perhaps he will succeed in getting it to abandon its alertness to Red aims.

Third, and perhaps most important from Khrushchev's standpoint, is the effect these confabs with Western leaders have back home in Russia and in his captive countries. There no longer can be any doubt that Khrushchev has plenty of troubles on his hands inside Russia itself and in the sullen captive nations on her borders. But if he and his communist cohorts can make it appear that they have brought the powerful Western leaders to their knees, it might extend for a while the Red tyrants' power-hold over their people.

All this may seem to be in the realm of speculation. But consider a few facts. There can be no doubt that Khrushchev has gotten - and will continue to get - a terrific propaganda bonus out of these dealings with our leaders. I remind you of the statement of a French authority, which

I reported last week, that Soviet diplomacy is one of the principal spheres of Soviet propaganda. And I also remind you of J. Edgar Hoover's statement that the American Communist Party is now full of vim and vigor as the result of Khrushchev's visit to the United States last Fall.

As to weakening the defenses of the West, Khrushchev succeeded in getting our representatives into an end-

less series of conferences on banning nuclear tests. These meetings have been going on for 17 months - during which time we stopped testing nuclear weapons. So we are that much behind in the development of new and more effective nuclear defenses. It is anybody's guess as to whether or not Khrushchev tested weapons. The best scientific authority says it is impossible to detect all types of tests.

PLAYING INTO KHRUSHCHEV'S HANDS

So far as disarmament is concerned, a conference on this subject has been going on in Geneva for several weeks between Western and communist representatives. Of course, the only way true disarmament can be effective is if a means is provided to see whether or not any country is building armaments. This means inspection. But the Soviet delegate at the conference last week declared Russia would permit no inspection until the world was completely disarmed. If we fall for that - the way we fell for the nuclear-test ban - it would mean we would disarm, and then go look to see if Russia disarmed. Suppose she did not? What could we do?

As to the troubles at home and in the captive nations - which make all these confabs with the gullible Western leaders so necessary to Khrushchev - take a look at Rumania for instance. A worker there earns, under the communist dispensation, only a little over \$2.00 a day. But he has to pay anywhere from \$9.00 to \$40.00 for a pair of shoes. Last week the Senate Internal Security Committee heard a witness who just recently defected from Soviet Russia. He told the committee that millions of people in Russia despise the Soviet regime. And why does Khrushchev refuse to permit the people of Germany to vote freely on which system they

want to live under - his East German Red regime, or West Germany's capitalist regime?

But what concerns us most of all is this. What are we, the American people, letting ourselves in for, when we permit our leaders to hold powwows and make agreements with the Reds? During the last quarter century, the United States has made 52 major

agreements with the Reds. What became of them? The Reds *broke 50 of them*. How many more broken agreements must we stand for, before we realize that we are constantly playing into the hands of Khrushchev and his Red butchers? Would it not be much better for ourselves and the world if we let him face his own troubles all by himself? - John T. Flynn

Foregoing items covered in Mutual network broadcast 4/3/60

Book Review AMERICA'S BEST-LOVED PAINTER

NORMAN ROCKWELL: My Adventures as an Illustrator, 436 pages (illustrated), Doubleday, N. Y., \$4.95.

We doubt that there is a literate American who has not enjoyed, at one time or another, a Norman Rockwell illustration. His *Saturday Evening Post* covers are famous. And we once heard a young man declare that his sanity had been saved by a Rockwell illustration for an auto ad. He was on an important but thankless mission in a God-forsaken spot in the Middle East. Christmas was approaching, and he had worked himself into a blue funk at being so far from home and family.

Then he came upon a Norman Rockwell painting showing the shining faces of an American family who got a new car for Christmas. This young American says he doesn't know why, but something in the picture made everything seem worthwhile again.

Probably other such stories could be told by innumerable other Americans. There is an elusive quality in Rockwell's pictures which has made him our most famous and best-loved illustrator. There are clues to that quality in this thoroughly enjoyable autobiography, put between covers by his son Thomas. In this day of the sordid and ugly - and

incomprehensible – in art, as in literature, it is as refreshing as one of his Vermont trout streams to read how Rockwell came to paint ‘life as I would like it to be,’ and in the process painted it as it often is (thus relegating the pompous ‘moderns’ and beatniks to the limbo in which they belong).

In addition, his book is filled with good anecdotes, wonderful and disconcerting adventures, amusing peeks at how the world of magazine illustration operates, and the agony of creation which goes into one of the famous *Post* covers.

Though he has written his autobiography, Norman Rockwell is not finished painting. His

zeal for life and search for perfection in his pictures continues unabated. He quotes Picasso who, when asked which was his favorite among his paintings, replied ‘The next one.’ Rockwell, a modest man, is a great painter who is never satisfied with his work. But he is also a great and lovable person. That fact emerges – though he would doubtless be horrified to be told so – from nearly every page of this book. And, like the girl in the song, he and his work are as American as a Kansas cornfield, the Fourth of July, and apple pie. That is why this story of his life and adventures makes unusually satisfying reading.

– *Rosalie Gordon*

TOO TOLERANT

“Americans have always been considered a tolerant people... We have scores of different sects and creeds, churches and religious groups, all getting along in more or less peace and amity. We have sharp and at times violent differences of opinion; yet we respect the other fellow’s right to differ with us, no matter how irrational his arguments may sound.

“We argue pointedly about politics; we differ with each other about countless aspects of our daily life; yet insofar as these differences go between Americans, the sharp edges of discord have always been blunted against a solid background: the feeling of universal loyalty to one nation, one flag and one God.

“Of late years there has been a change. The country is uneasy. You hear the oft-repeated statement ‘I don’t like the

looks of things.' People are beginning to look beneath the tinsel and fanfare of clever propaganda and catch glimpses of the shoddy base on which the so-called liberals rest their bid for power. We have followed too many false leaders, men who are strangers to the old words of 'honor and faith and sure intent.' The tolerance that was once a virtue has now become a sin. We have become too tolerant.

"We have become tolerant about treason; we have become tolerant about chicanery in high places; we have become tolerant about immorality; we have become tolerant about crime, delinquency and illegitimacy; we have become tolerant about government waste, about the loss of our freedoms; we have become tolerant about godlessness, about unbelief. We have been sapped of conviction, drained of our beliefs and bereft of our faith...

"Great things exist. It is men who destroy them or make them seem hopeless." - *Bozeman (Mont.) Gallatin Co. TRIBUNE*

COMPETING PANHANDLERS

"If America can be saved from becoming a socialist-labor-welfare dictatorship it can be saved only by a revolution at the grassroots...(It) can be saved the same way it was founded, by rebellious patriots demanding a return to home rule. Our state governments have almost entirely lost their sovereignty and have become weak, hungry, competing panhandlers for the federal syndicate." - *Tom Anderson, ed. FARM & RANCH*

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